

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-18, 20-22, 24, 26, 29, 31, 32, and 35-52 are in the application. Claims 1 and 31 are in independent form. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-13, 16-18, 21, 22, 24, and 26 are allowed. Claims 37-52 are added.

Applicants have added Figs. 23 and 24 to the drawings. Fig. 23 presents Example 12, the data for which is taken from Table 8 in column 11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,593,606 ('606 patent), which was incorporated by reference into the subject application. Fig. 24 shows the conversion of the original data of Example 12 into fluences and power densities by laser equations that were well-known to skilled practitioners at the time of filing of the '606 patent.

Applicants have amended the specification to include references to Fig. 23 and Example 12, which is a description of Fig. 23. The information in the amendments to the specification is taken from column 6, lines 26-32 and column 11 (the paragraph concerning Example 8) of the '606 patent, which was incorporated by reference into the subject application.

Claims 37-52 are added by this amendment. These claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 31, which has been deemed allowable by virtue of the submission of a terminal disclaimer over the '606 patent. Applicants believe that Fig 23 and the amendment to the specification provide ample support for the added claims, and this subject matter is entitled to the original filing date of the '606 patent. In particular, the 266 nm wavelength in claim 37 is supported by the last sentence of added text. The repetition rates of claims 38-40 are recited in samples 6, 8, and 9, respectively, of Fig. 23. The spot sizes of claims 41, 42, and 51 are supported by the original specification of the '606 patent and by the 25  $\mu\text{m}$  spot size reported in Fig. 23. Claim 43 is supported by the 225 mW average output power employed to process the samples in Example 12 and is also supported indirectly by higher average output powers employed to process other examples in the '606 patent.

Claims 44-46 and 49 recite fluence values of 2.30  $\text{J/cm}^2$ , 14.79  $\text{J/cm}^2$ , and 28.72  $\text{J/cm}^2$  that can be calculated directly from the data in Samples 9, 3, and 7, respectively, of Fig. 23, based on the known formula: Fluence = (Average

Power)/((Spot Area)(Rep Rate)). Applicants believe that these examples provide sufficient support for the fluence ranges recited in these claims.

Claims 47, 48, and 50 recite power density values of  $1.02 \times 10^8 \text{ W/cm}^2$  and  $7.18 \times 10^8 \text{ W/cm}^2$  that can be calculated directly from the data in Samples 8 and 7, respectively, of Fig. 23 using the 90 ns and 40 ns endpoints of the preferred pulsedwidth range in the '606 patent, based on the equation: Power Density = (Fluence/Pulse Width). Applicants believe that these examples provide sufficient support for the power density ranges recited in these claims.

Claim 51 recites that the laser is a solid-state laser.

Applicants believe that their application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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